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House.

There is music in the air—a great

deal of it, and of a very superior quality.

It has taken a long time for the people

of Indiana to get their eyes open to the

fact that Democracy is a tax, but they

see it now.

The Louisville Commercial patriotically

remarks that "These United States

now constitute the richest country

in the world." It forgets the Oage

Indians.

JERRY SIMPSON went to the Cincinnati

meeting declaring that the organiza-

tion of a new party at that time would

be a great blunder, and went away de-

claring that nothing of the kind had

been done.

If the Democratic class-leader does

not utter sulphurous expletives during

the hot season, when called upon to ex-

plain the Democratic tax law, it will be

because he has forgotten the Demo-

cratic vocabulary.

The Attorney-general of Indiana is a

good deal of a bluffer, but he cannot

make men whose State taxes will be

more than doubled by the blundering

act of the Democratic Legislature be-

lieve that it is the best and fairest tax

act the State ever had.

The proposition of the Brooklyn Eagle

that friends of Cleveland and Hill

meet and make a compact for the cam-

paign which will insure harmony is vi-

olently opposed by the German Cleveland

paper in New York, the Staats Zeitung,

on the ground that Mr. Cleveland's

friends have no faith in Hill's honesty.

And thus the good work goes on.

Now that the failure to declare a close

season for the seal fisheries has been

shown by official dispatches to be due to

the delay of Lord Salisbury in coming

to a conclusion, and not to the Harrison

administration, the repetition of the

falsehood that Mr. Elihu has induced

the President and Secretary Blaine to

withhold their approval in his interest

should be regarded as out of season

is not that any lie about the adminis-

tration is always in season.

The Democratic House in Illinois will

attempt to push its gerrymandering bill

through the Legislature by threatening

to refuse the passage of the appropri-

ation bills if the Senate refuses to agree.

Fortunately, the date of adjournment

has been fixed, and, if the Legislature

departs without making provision for

the support of State institutions, the

Governor can convene that body for that

special purpose, and it can attend to no

other business.

The New York Sun concludes an ar-

ticle concerning newspapers by saying:

"They are made to be read from day to

day by all the people, and the better

they are the more readers they will get

in the long run. Vicious journals may

have an ephemeral success, but as soon

as they are found out for what they are

the people let them alone." This is solid

truth. A newspaper that keeps up to a

high standard 365 days in the year does

not need to devote much time or space

to blowing its own horn. We know one

newspaper of that kind.

For the first time in a great many

years it has been decided not to close

the War Department and the Depart-

ment of Justice on the day of the funeral of Judge Taft, although he was one of the heads of each of the departments named. It has been found that the custom of closing the departments on the funeral day of ex-Cabinet officers resulted in giving too many holidays to the clerks and wasting too much of the government's time, which is money. Hereafter the departments will only be closed for the funerals of Cabinet officers who die in office.

A CHICAGO telegram announces that Representative Flower, of New York,

old a reporter there that he "is out of politics." Mr. Flower is chairman of the Democratic congressional committee, is the proprietor of a hoghead rather than a barrel, and has the reputation of inserting a large number of faucets in campaigns in which he is interested. Last fall, it is said, he contributed more money for the campaign than all the other Democratic members of Congress. The boys in New York will be grieved if this report is true, as Mr. Flower has been considered a leading aspirant for the candidacy for Governor.

The internal revenue tax on oleomargarine will yield nearly \$1,000,000 during the current fiscal year. The tax was imposed ostensibly for the benefit of the dairy interest, the theory being that the tax would restrict the sale of oleomargarine and thus promote that of

genuine butter. This result has not happened. Oleomargarine has continued to be manufactured and used in increasing quantities in spite of the tax. As its character and composition become better known the people continue to declare their preference for it over poor butter by buying and using it. Its manufacture is just as legitimate an industry as the dairy industry, and the tax upon it, besides failing of its purpose, is a standing monument of demagoguery. It should be repealed.

A DISTINCTION TO BE OBSERVED.

A few days since it was remarked by one of several men who were talking about public affairs that the fall of sugar incident to the removal of the duty would prove too much for the protectionists, because such a decline, under free trade in the raw material, would lead people to ask why a similar decline would not result in many other articles by the removal of the duty. Another who was listening to the conversation said that it made all difference as to the articles upon which the duties are imposed, since upon many articles which are produced in this country in sufficient quantity to supply the market the removal of the duty would have no effect upon the price, as it is as low here as elsewhere in the world.

It is well to have this distinction clearly understood, and to secure such understanding frequent repetition is necessary. The United States produces not enough sugar to affect the home price, but it is made in the markets of the world. Our importers and refiners buy sugar in Cuba, Brazil, Germany, and wherever it is raised or distributed. They bring it to our ports. If there is a duty it is added to the foreign price and is paid by the consumer. If there is no duty, as is now the case on raw sugars, the people of the United States pay the same price as all the other people in the commercial nations where no duty is imposed. Now take an article like shoes. None of any consequence are imported, and none need be. So many shoes are made in this country that home competition makes the price irrespective of the prices elsewhere. Therefore, free trade in shoes would not make them cheaper, but most likely it would lead manufacturers abroad to attempt to come here with their surplus goods and take as much of the American market as possible, to the detriment of the home manufacturer and employe. A reduction of prices might be made possible by turning into the shoe industry a large number of people who are paid but one-half or one-third of the wages paid now in this country, but it would take time, while the injury it would inflict upon the thousands employed in the shoe industry would far outweigh the advantage which might be derived from cheaper shoes. Under the present competition shoes are being sold in this country as low as they can afford to be and retain the standard of wages which are paid the makers. The same is true in regard to cotton goods, ready-made clothing, iron goods, etc. The distinction to be kept in view is that the duty, when imposed upon an article mostly supplied by other countries, is so much added to the price abroad, and is a tax imposed upon the purchaser, while in the case of foreign products which come into competition with those of this country, produced in abundance under sharp home competition, the duty is chiefly paid by the foreign producer and the price is not affected by the duty. The result is that few goods of that description are imported unless the duty can be escaped by the old trick of undervaluation, against which provision has been made.

THE MUSIC FESTIVAL.

The managers of the music festival have reason to be gratified over the result of their labors this year, and are entitled to the thanks of the community for the enterprise and energy shown in bringing together the elements necessary to the presentation of the high-class music of the programmes. The numbers selected for each and all of the concerts are of the highest merit, and Indianapolis has never before had the opportunity to listen to so many of the classic productions of the greatest composers so superbly presented. The educational value such a festival is of immeasurable value. The training of the seven hundred voices of the chorus in the works of the best composers gives an impetus to musical culture that can hardly be overestimated, while the interest aroused in the community by the undertaking is also an encouragement to progress. It is, of course, desirable that the enterprise should be a financial success, as the question of repetition each year depends largely upon the support given; but this, compared with its artistic success and the far-reaching benefits to the public, is a comparatively small matter. Indianapolis already shows a musical growth as a result of the former festivals; with each year it becomes less difficult to rouse enthusiasm in this direction, and there is reason to believe that this music festival has become a source of enjoyment that the people will henceforth not be willing to do without.

The festival is of more value to the city than any number of ordinary assemblages. We are always glad to welcome conventions and conferences of all kinds, and each one adds to the cosmopolitan character and interest of the city. But in a large sense the music festival overshadows them all, because its motive and inspiration are purely artistic. It appeals to feelings entirely removed from the every-day interests of life, and, in an artistic sense, immeasurably higher. Its inspiration is spiritual, not material. Its chief value is not merely in the people or the dollars it brings here, though in this regard it is not to be despised, but in the impulse and elevation it gives to artistic culture. It would have been to the credit of the city even to have attempted to give such an entertainment; to have succeeded so admirably is a lasting honor. The influence of such an artistic success will be sensibly felt in the invigorated tone of the aesthetic and spiritual side of society.

and in the higher reach towards similar enterprises in the future. If the festival could be made a permanent annual feature it would be worth almost as much to Indiana as an educational and artistic sense as the monument now going up in the Circle, the value of which cannot be estimated in dollars.

IN REGARD TO DEFICITS.

A portion of the Democratic press is undertaking to persuade the country that there will be a deficit in the treasury, instead of a surplus, early in the fiscal year which begins next July, if not before. They assume that such a thing is unheard of in the history of the country, and would mean the bankruptcy of the federal government. While there is no danger of a deficit, or that the government cannot meet all its current obligations without asking a loan beyond the extension of a part of the maturing four-and-a-half per cent. at a lower rate of interest, it may be well to correct the Democratic impression that there has never been a deficit in the treasury—a period during which the current revenues were less than the current expenditures in seasons of absolute peace. As a matter of fact, there have been several such periods. One of these was during the administration of Martin Van Buren, during only one year of which were the receipts equal to the expenditures, as the following figures show:

Year.	Receipts.	Expenditures.
1837.	\$24,454,153	\$37,243,496
1838.	23,302,563	32,863,059
1839.	31,342,750	26,899,128
1840.	19,480,115	24,317,579
Totals.	\$99,079,582	\$122,323,262

This deficit continued until the protective tariff of 1842 was fully in operation, when a surplus began to appear. Again, in 1853, after the Walker or strictly revenue tariff had been in force a decade, another period of deficit came on because of the general decline in the volume of imports. The figures are as follows:

Year.	Receipts.	Expenditures.
1853.	\$46,855,366	\$74,185,270
1854.	68,456,498	82,970,977
1855.	58,064,608	63,130,595
1856.	41,509,390	66,646,645
Totals.	\$197,715,830	\$287,932,487

Both of these extended periods of deficit in the federal treasury were during Democratic administrations, and were the results of Democratic policy and legislation. Because of the secession of the Democratic party in the South, and the general fear in financial circles that the federal government would be destroyed, the effect of the last period of deficiency was to almost bankrupt the treasury, but the statesmanlike policy of the Republicans averted the danger, and since the war, although the volume of the revenues has been reduced hundreds of millions, there has never been a deficit a single year. The cry was raised several times between 1873 and 1878, but at the year's end the footings of the columns of receipts and expenditures showed a surplus. And although the last Congress reduced the revenues by at least \$60,000,000, on the basis of those of 1880, and made unusual appropriations for pensions, when the fiscal year closes it will be found that the Republican administration has not followed the old Democratic example of creating deficits. But why should the Democrats see such calamity now in a thing which has occurred twice, once for a period of six and again for a period of four years, as the result of Democratic policy and during Democratic administrations?

NOT ENTITLED TO ORDEENANCE.

Senator-elect Peffer is the man who, just now, is given to reckless and false assertions to a greater extent than any of his associates who have been in the calamity business these many years. His speech at the People's convention has been printed in full, and is evidence of his unreliability. It is crowded with misrepresentations. In fact, there is scarcely a sentence which does not assert an untruth. In that speech he asserts that the Superintendent of the Census has finally given the country the "damning record" that "one-half of the farms of the country are under mortgage." Unless Mr. Peffer has lost his senses he must know that what he asserts is utterly false. The Superintendent of the Census has published no statement whatever as to the number of farms under mortgage. He has collected the data, and will, as soon as possible, present the figures. For Iowa and Alabama he has published statements relative to the mortgages on farms. The investigation in Iowa shows that not one-quarter, or even one-eighth, of the farms of that State are under mortgage; that 75 per cent. of the outstanding mortgages are for purchase money and to make improvements; that a large part of the remaining 25 per cent. was mortgaged to enable the men borrowing the money to embark in business, and that less than 3 per cent. of the whole amount was obtained on mortgage to enable the owners of the lands to get money to pay debts contracted to meet current expenses due to accident and misfortune. These are all the facts which the Superintendent of the Census has published, and it seems impossible that Mr. Peffer does not know it, but he knows it; but whether he does or not, the fact that he makes such absurd misrepresentations should discredit him with all persons who have either intelligence or candor.

Mr. MATTHEW MARSHALL, a well-known writer on financial topics, does not accept implicitly the theory that the gold which we have recently sent and are still sending abroad will return when our crops begin to move. He thinks there is reason to fear that the efflux of gold may be indicative of a permanent condition. After calling attention to the fact that at present we have only about \$300,000,000 of gold available to maintain the par value of our entire mass of credits, he says:

Now, if we go on adding to our present mass of \$425,000,000 silver money the \$54,000,000 a year required by the act of 1890, I cannot see why silver should not ultimately drive out gold, and I think I am not unreasonable in at least suspecting that the recent exports of gold to Europe may be only the beginning of a process which will continue irregularly until nothing but silver is left to us. Large crops here and abroad would not interfere with it, but they cannot arrest it altogether.

This goes beneath the surface and recognizes the well-established law of

finance that a cheaper or inferior currency always supplants and drives out a more valuable one. The natural operation of this law under our present coinage system would be to give silver the advantage of gold and to drive the latter out of the country. It is of the utmost importance to know whether this is really taking place, and the government should spare no pains to ascertain the facts.

WHILE the McKinley bill was under consideration great ado was made by the free-traders from the cotton States because the duty on cotton ties was increased so as to be in harmony with the duties imposed upon other like grades of iron. The duty under the old law was 35 per cent. ad valorem, which, on ties costing \$35 a ton, meant a duty of \$12.25. Under the McKinley bill the duty was changed to a specific one of \$9.12 a ton, or more than doubled. Mr. A. B. Whitney, of New York, the head of a firm representing the leading iron industries in Pennsylvania, has written a letter to the New York Press in which he states that his firm is now selling the trade, at \$1.10 per bundle, a better steel tie than was sold a year ago under the old tariff and lower duty for \$1.20. The same merchant further asserts that there is nothing we deal in, the tariff on which was advanced by the McKinley bill, but what is lower to-day than it was before." This is the statement of an extensive wholesale dealer, and not of a theoretical free-trader.

No tin-plate work speaking of has been made here, but there has been an advance in the price of about 35 per cent. since the McKinley bill was passed. And this means an increased tax upon every family in the land.—New York World.

The tin-plate clause of the McKinley law will go into effect July 1, 1891—five weeks hence. If the Welsh makers have added 35 per cent. to the price of their plates it is not because of the increased duty, for the good reason that it has not been increased, but because they have a monopoly and can make the price what pleases them, as they have been doing for years, always being sure to move the prices up and down so as to make it dangerous for others to engage in the industry. The fact that the makers have put up the prices 35 per cent. without cause proves that they have a monopoly, and affords another reason why the United States, which has iron, steel and tin enough of its own, and which consumes the larger part of the tin-plates now made, should establish the industry at home.

A SOUTHERN exchange calls attention to the fact that in two States in that section the law practically requires the ability on the part of the voter to read his ballot, and asks if any fault can be found with such legislation. If these laws should apply, as does the Constitution of Massachusetts and the proposed amendment to the Constitution of Maine, to those who may hereafter become citizens, and all the States have ample facilities to enable all who are to become citizens to read and write, the provision should be commended, but if such laws are applied to those who have exercised the right of suffrage and are designed specially to deprive any class of citizens of the right to vote, practically robbing them of the most valuable right which citizenship confers, it is all wrong. But, right or wrong, if such laws should be passed in New York, New Jersey and Connecticut there would be no hope for a Democratic majority.

This system of administration in Philadelphia is of a piece with that which has prevailed in Pennsylvania for many years. It is a system of public trust, but as a perquisite, infidelity to the public interest has not been a drawback to reelection or to advancement to still higher honors.—Louisville Courier-Journal.

Let's see, it was about \$200,000 that State Treasurer Tate, of Kentucky, got away with, wasn't it? And his stealing had been going on during two or three terms of office, hadn't it?

ALL the world loves a lover, and therefore all the world will approve of Governor Hovey's refusal to honor a request from the Governor of Kentucky for the return to that State of a young woman who ran away from home and crossed the Ohio river to marry the young man of her choice. Elopement from Kentucky to Indiana has been very common for many years past, and quite a source of revenue to some magistrates in the border towns, but so far as known this is the first time that an angry parent has ever tried to have his fugitive daughter returned under the criminal law. Even if it were, as stated, that the young woman committed perjury in swearing that she was of marriageable age, it looks like pretty small business on the part of the Commonwealth of Kentucky to demand her return on that account. The crime, if crime it was, was a venial one. No doubt "the accusing spirit" which flew up to heaven's chancery with the oath, blushed as he gave it in; and the recording angel, as he wrote it down, dropped a tear upon the word and blotted it out forever." Let us hope that the Governor of Kentucky, upon reflection, will feel moved to thank the Governor of Indiana for saving him from becoming a party to the enforced separation of a young girl from her father in the first quarter of their honeymoon. As for the angry father, let him remember that he was once young himself. If he will recall the feelings of his youth and follow the better impulses of his nature, instead of trying to have his runaway daughter surrendered as a fugitive from justice, he will say, as angry fathers do in the play, "Come to my arms, my children, and receive my blessing." Anyhow, he never can get that girl out of Indiana by force.

At the meeting of the Baptist Foreign Mission Society in Cincinnati the Rev. Eric Henson, a Norwegian, who has charge of the missions in the arctic regions, was introduced, and highly entertained those present with a description of the people of that country. He said his residence there had covered twenty-six years of his life, and he had converted among the Esquimaux and others over eight hundred souls, single-handed and alone. He facetiously remarked that at first they had some trouble in getting water to baptize the people. He did not say whether any of the converts died without being baptized, but he did the question might arise whether they should be held to account for the lack of that sacrament. The Esquimaux are not responsible for the fact that all the water that that region is solid. This is an ice question.

PRESIDENT J. S. CLARKSON, of the National Republican League, is just forty-four years old. He has lived in Iowa since he

was a boy of twelve, and he began his career as a compositor on the Iowa State Register, of which he is now the owner.

BUBBLES IN THE AIR.

Otherwise Now.

"Man wants but little more below, Nor wants that little long." So sang the poet, according to his lights. For those were days of knickerbockers.

Proof of Faith.

Watts—Do you really think old Deacon Podberry has such great faith in prayer as he pretends to?

Potts—Yes. Haven't you noticed that he never prays for his enemies?

A Safe Spot.

Tabberly—Think I'll have to change my board-in-house. I am getting tired of the hired girl reading all my letters and private papers.

Mudge—Why don't you do as I do—put them under the bed? They may get a little dusty, but they are safe.

The Inner History.

Dollie Footitt—So you actually have fought a duel on my account? You are a Quaker, aren't you?

Count De Billeto—I don't mind telling you that the fight was not on your account, at all. It was over a game of poker. But we thought your name would give tone to the affair, so to speak.

Unconquered Trifles.

"This might be called clearing the deck for action," mused the poker-player, as he sequestered all the aces.

It was Boston small boy who spelled it "bipable."

The Ohio campaign is already under way. The Democratic papers have begun alluding to "Bill McKinley."

A Cincinnati minister says that base-ball is "the highest form of gymnastic exercise," "entirely overlooking, in a figurative sense, the parachute artist."

ABOUT PEOPLE AND THINGS.

The Duke of Argyle's youngest daughter, Mrs. Mary A. Lanear, a cotton-spinner named Emmott, Quaker and wealthy.

JUDGE SCHOFIELD, of the Court of Claims, is now eligible for retirement on pay, and no less than eight applicants for appointment in his place have filed papers with the President.

GUY DE MATTASSANT, the French author, is a man of force, a cynic and a hyphenochrist. In manner he is eccentric and brusque even toward women. In his literary work he is a prodigy of industry.